WINNER OF THE 2005 MARSHALL HOPE AWARD FOR BEST DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER IN THE SUVCW!!!

G.A.R.

THE CLARION CALL

S.U.V.C.W.

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Auxiliary

1866 VOLUME No. 8 ISSUE No. 1 July 2009 1881

127th Department of Massachusetts Encampment

Boxboro, MA: On Saturday April 25, 2009, the Department of Massachusetts held its 127th Encampment. The following officers were elected and/or appointed: (standing from left) Peter Rotando, Council; Richard Eccleston, Sr., Color Bearer; Perley Mellor, PDC, Council; Richard Cultrera, Guide; Dexter Bishop, Chaplain; Timothy Callahan, Eagle Scout Officer; Edward Kelley, ROTC Officer, John Bates III, PDC, Organizer, (seated from left) Edward Knight, Junior Vice Commander; Kevin Tucker, Commander; George Maple Jr., Senior Vice Commander; Dan Murray, Secretary ; Edward Norris, Treasurer. Other officers, not pictured are Paul Jancewicz, Patriotic Instructor; Paul Kenworthy, Civil War Memorials Officer; and Allerton Bonney, GAR Highway Officer.

Massachusetts Memorials

Throughout Massachusetts this past Memorial Day, the SUVCW was well represented and highly active in various activities to honor our civil war ancestors . From places all over the state, our organization did us proud as it seems that every body took General Logan 's Order No. 11 to task and were mightily successful. The Department of Massachusetts met at the National Cemetery in Bourne where members took part in a large ceremony joined by other veteran organizations. After leading the parade march into the cemetery, (Continued on page 4).

DEADLINE FOR FALL ISSUE CONTRIBUTIONS: September 1, 2009

Contact the Editor at: THE CLARION CALL 20 Howland Terrace, Worcester, MA 01602 Email: williegrout25@verizon.net

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Department of Massachusetts
Kevin P. Tucker Department Commander

SERIES 2009 - 2010
DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 1
(to be read in the Camp and filed)

May 9, 2009

1. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Brothers that attended the 127th Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for electing me to serve as your Department Commander for the 2009 – 2010 term. I am deeply honored and pledge to you that I will do my very best to uphold the principals and objects of this organization, and will give every effort to pass on to my successor a stronger and more active organization.

2. I believe we have a strong corps of elected and appointed Department officers for the coming year,
and I wish each of them great success in their endeavors in service our Membership. I hope that they will make every effort to attend Camp, Department and National Organization events, and will always encourage every Brother in the Department to do the same. Our success as an organization depends on our activity, and I look forward to seeing them at meetings and functions throughout the year.

3. Department of Massachusetts Elected Officers for the 2009 – 2010 term are as follows:
Commander Kevin Tucker
Senior Vice Commander George Maple, Jr.
Junior Vice Commander Edward Knight
Secretary Daniel Murray
Treasurer Edward Norris
Department Council: Peter Rotando John Bates III, PDC Perley Mellor, PDC

4. Department of Massachusetts Appointed Officers for the 2009 – 2010 term are as follows:
Chaplain Dexter Bishop
Chief of Staff Daniel Burns
Civil War Memorials Officer Paul Kenworthy
Color Bearer Richard Eccleston, Sr.
Counselor Daniel Murray
Eagle Scout Award Officer Timothy Callahan
G.A.R. Highway Officer Allerton Bonney
Graves Registration Officer Edward Knight
Guard Roy Henry, Jr.
Guide Richard Cultrera
Historian A. Dean Sargent
Newsletter Editor Reynaldo Rodriguez
Organizer John Bates III, PDC
Patriotic Instructor Paul Jancewicz
R.O.T.C Award Officer Edward Kelley
Signals Officer George Maple, Jr.

Department Commander Kevin Tucker, (right) joins Richard (left) and Tyler (center) Eccleston, (along with Richard Cultrera, not pictured) as the Department Color Guard which marched in the Lynn Memorial Day Parade .

5. Headquarters for the Department of Massachusetts will remain at 91 Kelly Drive, Lancaster, MA 01523. Please direct all Department correspondence to Secretary Daniel Murray, c/o Ed Norris, at that address. Email messages to me should be sent to civilwarmemorials@verizon.net, and I can be reached by telephone at 617-678-6003. *(continued on page 3)*

6. On behalf of the entire Membership of the Department, I express our sincere thanks and congratulations to Past Department Commander Perley Mellor for his great service to the Department. Brother Mellor will long be remembered as the only Department Commander in the history of the Department to serve three consecutive terms. I am certain that Brother Mellor will continue to serve the Department, even as we look forward to his service as a National officer. Perhaps one day he will follow in his father's footsteps as a Commander-in-Chief of the organization.

7. I would also like to extend congratulations on behalf of the Department to Mary Catherine Knight on her election as Massachusetts Department President of our Auxiliary. I look forward to a supportive and harmonious relationship with Mary Catherine and all our beloved Sisters in the Department. I pledge to the Auxiliary the assistance of the Department and our Camps in their efforts in the coming year.

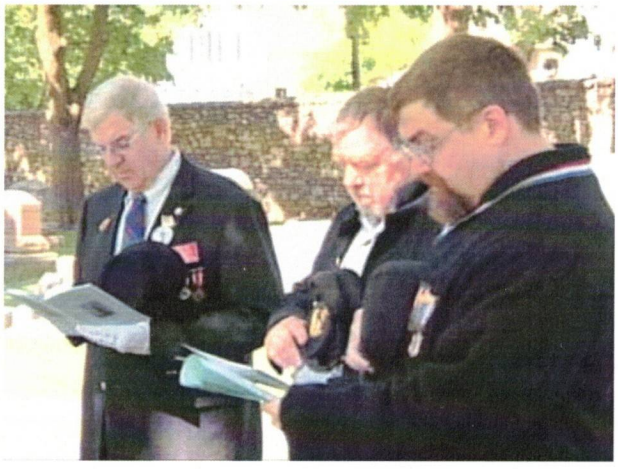
8. The goals of the Department in the coming year will be to increase the size of our Membership; encourage activity and participation by our Members; improve communications between the Department and its Members, and to initiate projects that affirm our stated principals of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. I call on all Brothers of the order to rally to the call of the Department for volunteers and participants to carry on the 128th year of service by Sons of Union veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of,

Kevin R Tucker

Kevin P. Tucker
Department Commander

Attest:
Daniel Murray



Worcester Ceremonies

On Monday May 25, 2009, Willie Grout Camp #25 and Willie Grout Auxiliary #25 joined forces and took part in the 115th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Hope Cemetery and Rural Cemetery.
The morning started at 9:00am with Camp Commander Edmund "Tag" Ahaesey joining Massachusetts Lt. Governor Timothy Murray and Worcester City Mayor Konstatine Lukes in a ceremony organized by the American Legion. Commander Ahaesey read General Logan's Order to the crowd that gathered.
Following the ceremony, the camp colors marched to the gravesites of Medal of Honor recepients Charles H. Pinkahm and Thomas Plunkett. At these sites, flowers and a flag were presented. On hand to witness this was Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early and Channel 3 News. Channel 3 interviewed members of the camp and were informed on how important Memorial Day and what it means as well as its date needing to be May 30th.
After Hope Cemetery, identical ceremonies took place at Rural Cemetery to honor the Camp's namesake, Willie Grout and G.A.R. Post 10 namesake, George H. Ward.
All those who attended and participated did the S.U.V.C.W. proud as they honored the memories of those civil war veterans in the Great Encampment in the sky.

Note: The 21st MA Infantry flag which was saved by Sgt. Thomas Plunkett who lost two arms in the process was allowed out of the State House for his funeral in 1885.

(Continued from page 1) the Department Commander Kevin Tucker read General Logan's Order No. 11. Following the main program, members of the Department marched in single file to the gravesite of an unknown soldier and held a memorial service, complete with prayers, song, poetry, "Taps" and three volleys. The ceremony was repeated at the graves of the six unknown soldier on the other side of the cemetery immediately following. After the ceremonies, the group retired to the local IHOP for some tasty repast and great camaraderie.

In Lynn, General Frederic Lander Camp 5 also was quite active, as they held what has become an annual memorial service at Pine Grove Cemetery. The service is held at the GAR Plot, immediately following the flagging of every Veteran's grave by local high school students. Members also take part in the Lynn Memorial Day Parade.

Top, Dept. of Massachusetts SUVCW marches in Bourne, Center, Lander Camp 5 in Pine Grove Cemetery, Bottom Left, Camp 3188 Commander Conley Ford and bottom left Dept. of Massachusetts marches in Lynn.

The color guard leading the funeral procession of Brother Benjamin Emerick, A.A. Sherman Camp #18

By-Law Changes Passed at the Department Encampment:

1. Allowing the addition Juniors and Associates within the Department.
2. Allowing flexibility with regard to the date of the Annual meeting to a weekend in April or when DC set for good of the order;
3. Changes in the specific offices that the DC must appoint to adhere to the Constitution and Regulations.
4. Changes in the language concerning the election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Encampment, to bring them in line with the Constitution and Regulations.
5. Require that itemized receipts for all authorized expenditures shall be provided to the Dept. Treasurer before reimbursement is made, regardless of Department office.
6. Grammatical correction to Dept, By-laws Preamble.
7. Change term of office for Dept. Council to shall be elected to a term of two (2) years, with seats elected on a rotating basis.
8. Change to the Department Treasurer 's responsibilities and requirements, limiting him from making investment decisions.
9. Change to the Department Council's responsibilities and requirements, making the Council responsible for investment decisions.

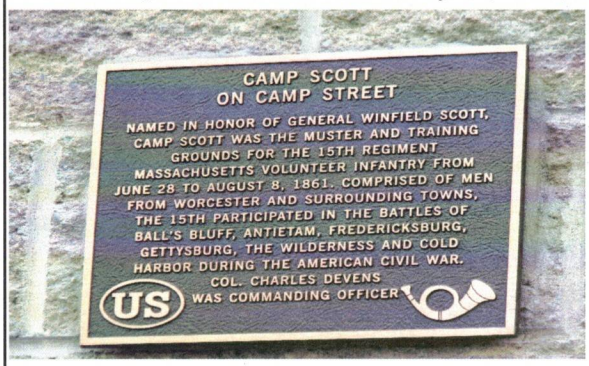
Right: Members of L.A. Tift Camp 15 and ASUVCW gather to honor veterans for Memorial Day in Oak Grove Cemetery, Springfield, MA

Left: 15th MA INF, S.V.R. marches in Princeton, MA for Memorial Day Parade

Right: S.U.V.C.W. members attending and participating in a civil war camp dedication ceremony in Worcester, MA

CAMP SCOTT dedication...

Worcester, Massachusetts: On May 14, 2009, a small crowd gathered in the South Worcester playground on Camp Street to witness the dedication of Camp Scott. In 1861, Camp Scott named for General Winfield Scott was the training ground for the 15th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment also known as the Worcester County Regiment. Five members of the S.U.V.C.W. took part in the ceremony.


CAMP SCOTT
ON CAMP STREET
NAMED IN HONOR OF GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT, CAMP SCOTT WAS THE MUSTER AND TRAINING GROUNDS FOR THE 15TH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY FROM JUNE 28 TO AUGUST 8, 1861. COMPRISED OF MEN FROM WORCESTER AND SURROUNDING TOWNS, THE 15TH PARTICIPATED IN THE BATTLES OF BALL'S BLUFF, ANTIETAM, FREDERICKSBURG, GETTYSBURG, THE WILDERNESS AND COLD HARBOR DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.
COL. CHARLES DEVENS
WAS COMMANDING OFFICER
US

Brothers Robert Ducharme and Reynaldo Rodriguez of Willie Grout Camp #25, one posting the colors of the 15th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment (replicas used by the re-enactment unit), and the other giving a speech on the George H. Ward G.A.R. Post #10. The chaplain for the ceremony was Brother Daniel Sumption of William Jenkins Camp #129. Finally the last two were special guests as they were descendants of George H. Ward, David and Robert Ward from the Department of Pennsylvania.

As part of the project, the G.A.R. Memorial Hall Board of Trustees of which sponsored the event recruited four High School students to write and present essays. The four students, Tre Brooks, Adwoa Badien, Nancy Osei, and Emily Faucher, each toured civil war related sites in the city with Brother Rodriguez on April 17th. The four essays chosen were on Camp Scott, 15th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, George H. Ward and John "Willie" Grout.

A plaque covered with a blue cover was unveiled via two strings pulled by the four students along with David and Robert Ward. The plaque marked the location for all to see as well as for future generations. The ceremony ended with the words to The Vacant Chair read by Emily Faucher. The four students were thanked for their contributions as special certificates were handed out to them.

CAMPS IN THE NEWS:

Scituate, MA: An article in the Scituate Mariner came entitled "Sons make their return to Memorial Day festivities". In the article with enthusiasm Camp 3188 founder, Conley Ford explained about the Grand Army of the Republic and how they started the tradition now known as Memorial Day. According to Brother Ford, it was called originally called Decoration Day because that's when items like wreathes were laid on the graves of soldiers. According to the article, the camp had been absent since the 1940s and it was time to make up for the lost years and as Brother Ford said, "We're bringing this back alive. We're here to stay". Brother Ford was referring to having members march in the annual parade and to assist in the laying of wreathes in the harbor to honor and remember the war dead. The Satuit Camp is number 3188 to honor both its GAR Post 31 and its Camp 88. Huzzah and wishes from the Clarion for a long lasting presence in Scituate and in Massachusetts.

Right: Conley Ford, Chris Tompson,Dean Sargent, Todd Spear, Lester Gammon in Cudworth Cemetery, Scituate.

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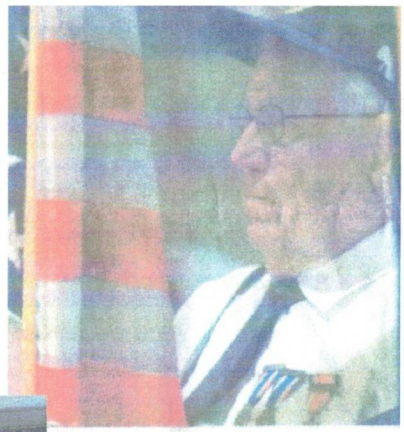
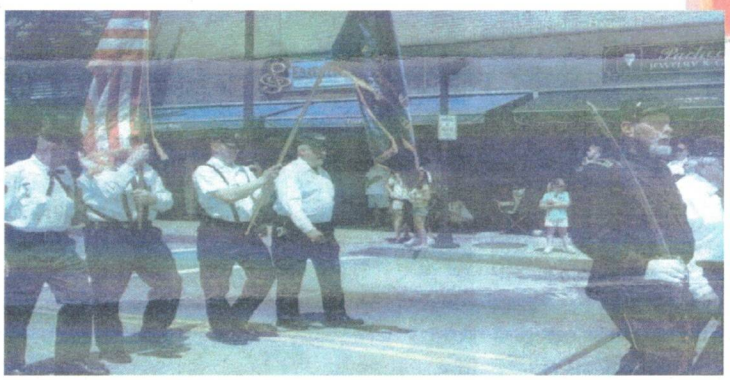
Email: dbonney1@comcast.net

Camp 26 Aims To Mark Every Veteran's Grave

Taunton, MA Camp 26 has initiated a project of great magnitude and even greater reward. Brother in Taunton have decided it is time to ensure that every war veteran buried there has a marker. Capm Commander Donald French, along with other Members of the Camp came up with the idea while conducting their annual flagging of the graves of veterans for Memorial Day. They formed the Taunton Veterans Memorial Marker program, where markers will be purchased for as little as a $7.00 donation (larger donations are always welcome). The total cost is estimated to be about $45,000. The city may even help with some of the cost. An account was set up to receive donations, for checks made payable to "VMM". This means the project is off to a good start. This is definitely something that all our communities should think about. Huzzahs for Camp 26, not only for identifying the issue,, but actually planning a solution and setting that plan into motion.





Above: Brother Donald French
Left: General D.N. Couch Camp No. 26 marching the Memorial Day Parade Taunton, MA

Taunton Veteran's Memorial Markers: Join the Magnificent Seven, Help honor Taunton's Veterans

General Darius N. Couch Camp No. 26 in Taunton has initiated a project to acquire permanent markers for U.S. Veterans buried in Taunton.

For a seven dollar ($7.00) donation, you can help.

Please send a check, payable to "City of Taunton, VMM", to:
Dept. of Veterans' Services
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

For more information check out http://www.taunton-ma.gov/Pages/TauntonMA_Veterans/vmm.

Please email any inquiries to vetsdirector@tmlp.net.

AUXILIARY to SONS of UNION VETERANS of the CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT of MASSACHUSETTS

General Orders #1
Mary Catherine Knight
50 Eskett Road
Belchertown, MA 01007
Home 413-323-7392
Cell 413-835-5733

May 30, 2009

Dear Sisters:

The Department of MASS 118th Annual Encampment was held on April 25, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Boxboro, Mass.

Chief of Staff, Jillian Rosa, called upon the guards to escort Dept. President Nancy Sullivan to the President's station. National President, Jan Harding was also escorted into the meeting.

Gifts were given to Nancy Sullivan by many Sisters.

An initiation ceremony was then performed by President Nancy and Chaplain Cathy Rosa. The candidate was Jane Burgoyne. She was welcomed by all the Sisters at the end of the ceremony.

Dept. Pres. Nancy read her report which was accepted. It was voted that all other reports would be read and accepted by one vote from the Secretary.

The Scholarship recipient, who was chosen by the President, was Allison Rosa who was a former Junior member and is now a regular member of Sumner Needham Aux. #128 as well as a Dual member in New Hampshire.

The Scholarship amount was for $300.00 and it had been donated by Doctors Thelma and Harvey Berger. They had also donated a generous sum to our Dept. Aux. We gave them a rising vote of thanks in appreciation of their generosity. We were sorry that they were unable to attend our Encampment due to Thelma's illness. We hope she will be better soon and they will both be with us next year.

National President, Jan Harding presented an original newspaper from New York to us dated April 30, 1861. It was the story about our Union soldiers being attacked as they arrived in Baltimore on their way to Washington.

Jan also showed us the new certificates which she had created for our organization and. then gave a very nice speech.

We adjourned for a lovely lunch which was followed by an informative speech by William Hallett depicting the last day of Abraham Lincoln's life.

Mass. Dept. Commander, Perley Mellor was very gracious to us and we want to thank him for the many ways he helped us.

Past National Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler was present with his wife. He represented National Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert.

We had four National Presidents attending. They were Mary Scofield, Cynthia Brown, Barbara Mayberry and Judy Trepanier. Several Department Presidents were also present.

The rest of the reports were also given and then election of officers took place.

The following Officers of the Department of Massachusetts are as follows:

President - Mary Catherine Knight

Vice President - Diane Mellor

Secretary/Treasurer - Barbara Mayberry

Patriotic Instructor - Veronica Mellor

Chaplain - Mary Kelly

Council #1 - Nancy Sullivan

Council #2 - Sandy Bates

Council #3 - Mary Ellen Seiffert

Press Correspondent - Catherine Wagner

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Co- Counselors - Barbara Mayberry PNP and Edward Knight CC

Committee members will be appointed as needed.

I wish to thank the Sisters for the great honor of electing me as Department President. I will work very hard to do a good job. If you have any questions please contact me.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Mary Catherine Knight, President
ASUVCW Dept. of Mass.

Attest
Barbara Mayberry
Secretary

SUPPORT OUR DISABLED VETERANS AT THE CHELSEA SOLDIERS HOME

" In 1876 the Grand Army of the Department of Massachusetts resolved that no man who had worn the Union uniform and fought for the state and nation on land or sea should sleep in an almshouse or, dying, be buried as a pauper in a potter's field. He must be taken out, and be placed in a Soldiers' Home, where the old flag that he loved so well should float over him, and where he should be treated as an honored guest.. "

The Chelsea, Massachusetts Soldiers Home was started by the Department of Massachusetts G.A.R. in 1881, the same year the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War came into being. There are currently more than 300 disabled Veterans currently living at the Soldiers Home, most without relatives to see to their needs.

For his Eagle Scout project, candidate Ryan Finnegan is collecting tee shirts, socks, towels, and toiletries for donation to disabled Veterans residing at the Soldiers Home . The principals of this organization are Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. As a Department, we have not performed many charitable services in keeping with our mission. This is a great opportunity for all of us to further our mission in a meaningful way.

I call upon all Brothers in the Department to make an effort to assist Ryan in his project by collecting and/or donating the following NEW items for the Veterans at the Soldiers Home: XL Mens Yellow Tee Shirts, XL Mens Navy Blue Tee Shirts, Towels and Face Cloths, Mens Socks, Tooth Paste, Tooth Brushes, Dental Floss, Deodorant, Bar Soap, Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Hats, New or Used DVDs and VHS Movies, Books and Magazines.

Please contact DC Tucker at 617-678-6003 or by email at civilwarmemorials@verizon.net to arrange pick up for the items.

G.A.R. **S.U.V.C.W.**

The Clarion Call

Newsletter of the Department of Massachusetts
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

1866 **1881**

VISIT THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS WEBSITE AT:
www.suvmass.org

The Clarion Call
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